



City of Cardiff Education Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1917

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

EDWARD WALFORD, M.D., D.P.H.,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, CARDIFF EDUCATION AUTHORITY ;
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, CITY AND PORT OF CARDIFF.

CARDIFF :

S. GLOSSOP AND SONS, LTD., NEW STREET.

1918.

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Medical Inspection Staff.

School Medical Officer :

EDWARD WALFORD, M.D., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers :

*A. F. BERNARD SHAW, M.D., D.P.H.

EMILIE C. CREASER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Specialists—School Clinic :

Ophthalmic Surgeon : D. LEIGHTON DAVIES, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Surgeon (Ear, Nose and Throat) : J. O. WADE, M.B., B.S.

Dentist : C. J. HURRY RICHES, L.D.S. (Eng.).

Anæsthetist : ERIE EVANS, M.B.

School Nurses :

AGNES C. BRODIE.

ELLEN WHITING.

CHRISTINA WALSH.

MARGARET SNELL.

*FRANCES H. JONES.

Clerks :

*THOMAS CHANT.

*WALTER GOMAN.

*THOMAS MILLS.

*On Military Duty.

CARDIFF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

CITY HALL,

CARDIFF,

May, 1918.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CARDIFF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Ninth Annual Report upon the Medical and Sanitary Supervision of the Schools under your control, including an account of the medical inspection and treatment of children attending the Public Elementary Schools in the City of Cardiff during the year ended 31st December, 1917.

A grant of £864 17s. 11d. was received from the Board of Education for medical inspection for the financial year ended March 31st, 1917.

There are thirty-seven Public Elementary Schools in the City, with accommodation for 33,302 scholars. The average attendance from October, 1916, to September, 1917, was 28,012.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as School Medical Officer, and is directly responsible to the Education Committee, having two Assistant Medical Officers, who also act as Assistants to the Medical Officer of Health. The clerical work relating to medical inspection and treatment is carried out by clerks in the office of the Medical Officer of Health, and the Assistant Medical Officers and the School Nurses have office accommodation in the Public Health Department. The two services are therefore in close association, and form, in fact, one organization.

Dr. A. F. Bernard Shaw, who was appointed in October, 1912, and Dr. Emilie C. Creaser, who was appointed in January, 1914, act as Assistant School Medical Officers, and also undertake certain duties in connection with the Public Health Department.

Dr. Shaw has been absent on Military Service since August, 1914. Dr. Erie Evans has undertaken part-time duties as temporary Assistant School Medical Officer.

There are five School Nurses on the permanent Staff, two of whom, during the year, were absent on Military duties, and their places were taken by two temporary School Nurses.

Two Nurses assist in the routine and special inspection of children. One Nurse devotes the whole of her time to duties in connection with the School Clinic. One Nurse is responsible for the "following up" of cases and she is assisted, whenever possible, by some of the other Nurses. The Nurses help at the Clinic on the days when operations are performed for tonsils and adenoids and when the Dentist is in attendance, and also in the treatment of minor ailments.

An arrangement has been made by the Education Committee with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses' Institute for their Nurses to assist in the treatment of minor ailments by visiting the children in their homes and carrying out the treatment advised at the Clinic. The Cardiff Education Committee contribute £30 a year to the Nurses' Institute for services rendered in connection with this work.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

OPHTHALMIC DEPARTMENT.—This work is undertaken by an Ophthalmic Surgeon—Dr. Leighton Davies—who devotes one half-day a week to treatment of diseases of the eyes and defective vision.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEPARTMENT.—A Specialist attends one half-day a week for treatment of diseases of the ear, nose and throat (chiefly tonsils and adenoids). Dr. Wade was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death on Military Service of Dr. A. L. Thornley.

DENTAL CLINIC.—The Dentist—Mr. C. J. Hurry Riches—visits the schools one session weekly to examine children between the ages of 6 and 8. The parents of children requiring treatment are notified and if suitable cases, those who apply are treated by him at the Clinic and such other cases as are specially recommended by the Assistant Medical Officers. He attends at the Clinic one half-day a week to carry out treatment.

Dr. Erie Evans was appointed to give anaesthetics at the Dental and Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

MINOR AILMENTS.—The treatment of minor ailments, including ringworm, scabies and common skin diseases, is supervised by the Assistant School Medical Officers on two half-days a week. The School Nurses and Queen's Nurses give valuable assistance in carrying out at the homes of the children the treatment prescribed. 4,336 visits were paid by the Queen's Nurses during 1917.

CLEANSING STATION.

During the year the number of children treated at the Cleansing Station by the Nurses amounted to 54, suffering from scabies. The number of baths given was 94.

Children specially examined upon school premises by the School Nurses with a view to detecting neglected and verminous conditions:—

Children examined	...	...	...	...	...	21,835
Children found to be neglected or verminous	...	...	...	...	...	912
Notices sent to Parents	...	...	...	...	...	912
Re-examinations of Children previously found to be neglected or verminous	...	...	...	...	...	498
Children who upon first examination were neglected or verminous, found upon re-examination to have been cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	424
Second Notices sent to Parents	...	...	...	...	...	74

ACTION TAKEN WITH A VIEW TO DETECTING AND PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

This work is closely associated with the ordinary administration in the Department of the Medical Officer of Health. Notices are sent to the Teachers immediately after the receipt of a notification from a medical practitioner that a child is suffering from an infectious disease, and printed instructions are given to the parent concerned.

Information received by the School Medical Officer relating to non-notifiable diseases, viz.:—whooping cough, chicken-pox, etc., is, of course, incomplete, although the majority of cases amongst school children are notified to the Medical Officer by Head Teachers, upon forms supplied to them. The Assistant Medical Officers, School Nurses, Health Visitors, and School Attendance Officers, also at times give information of such cases. Children found to be actually suffering from infectious disease are, of course, excluded from school until they are considered to be free from infection.

Children residing in houses in which there is infectious disease, but who are not themselves suffering from such illness, are dealt with in accordance with the instructions referred to.

It has been found necessary to examine cases of ringworm very carefully before re-admission.

TABLE I.

Number of Children Inspected 1st January, 1917, to 31st December, 1917.

A.—CODE GROUPS.

AGE	ENTRANTS.						LEAVERS.				GRAND TOTAL
	3	4	5	6	Other Ages	Total	12	13	Other Ages	Total	
Boys	287	421	324	78	1,110	371	971	...	1,842 2,452
Girls	191	400	328	62	981	227	1,026	...	1,253 2,234
Total	478	821	652	140	2,091	598	1,997	...	2,595 4,686

B.—GROUPS OTHER THAN CODE.

	SPECIAL CASES.			Re examinations (i.e. No. of Children Re-examined)	Total Re-examinations
	At the City Hall	On the School Premises	Total		
Boys	847	97	944
Girls	850	157	1,007
Total	...	1,697	254	1,951	789
					1,929

TABLE

Number and Age Periods of Children

SCHOOL	Infants—Boys					Totals	Infants—Girls					Totals		
	Ages—Years						Totals	Ages—Years						
	3	4	5	6	7		3	4	5	6	7			
Adamsdown C.		
Albany Road C.		
Allensbank C.		
Court Road C.	18	30	17	2	67	...	16	21	7	5		
Crwys Road C.	8	6	3	17	...	6	17	7	5		
Eleanor Street C.		
Gladstone C.		
Grangetown C.	37	50	26	11	124	...	21	47	17	12		
Kitchener Road C.	14	23	11	3	51	...	11	18	16	1		
Lansdowne Road C.		
Marlborough Road C.	21	48	36	23	128	...	8	38	29	16		
Moorland Road C.	33	22	6	...	61	...	23	18	5	...		
Ninian Park C.		
Radnor Road C.	7	9	9	3	28	...	6	13	4	...		
Roath Park C.	13	31	23	9	76	...	8	33	19	12		
Severn Road C.	38	42	27	14	121	...	24	39	24	5		
South Church Street C.		
Splotlands C.	17	48	28	...	93	...	10	31	39	...		
Stacey Road C.	26	25	24	...	75	...	10	25	27	...		
Wood Street C.	13	22	7	5	47	...	16	25	21	2		
Canton N.P.		
Cathays N.P.	6	18	24	...	48	...	6	16	27	...		
Crofts Street N.P.	3	10	13	...	26	...	...	11	20	...		
Grangetown N.P.		
Metal Street N.P.	12	12	17	...	41	...	9	10	23	...		
St. John's N.P.	4	1	5	1	11	...	3	7	8	4		
St. Mary's N.P. (Bute Terrace)		
St. Mary's N.P. (Clarence Road)		
St. Mary's Mission N.P.		
St. Monica's N.P.	3	8	8	...	19	...	5	18	5	...		
Tredegarville N.P.		
St. Alban's N.P.		
St. Cuthbert's N.P.		
St. David's N.P.		
St. Mary's N.P. (Wyndham Crescent)		
St. Patrick's N.P.		
St. Peter's N.P.	22	14	37	4	77	...	9	13	30	52		
TOTALS	...	287	421	324	78	1110	...	191	400	328	62	981		

C.—Council Schools.

II.

Inspected at Routine Inspection.

Boys				Girls				Totals (All Ages)	SCHOOL		
Ages—Years				Ages—Years							
7	8	12	13	Totals	7	8	12				
...	...	13	35	48	...	...	16	35	99	Adamsdown C.
...	65	65	...	...	11	43	119	Albany Road C.	
...	...	9	34	43	...	...	4	34	81	Allensbank C.
...	42	158	Court Road C.	
...	...	35	25	60	...	...	12	42	166	Crwys Road C.
...	...	2	13	15	...	...	6	12	33	Eleanor Street C.
...	...	37	21	58	...	...	3	41	102	Gladstone C.
...	...	19	48	67	...	...	...	43	331	Grangetown C.
...	...	12	41	53	...	...	7	29	186	Kitchener Road C.
...	...	25	24	49	...	...	3	47	99	Lansdowne Road C.
...	...	39	39	39	...	...	12	18	288	Marlborough Road C.
...	...	24	70	94	...	...	25	60	286	Moorland Road C.
...	...	54	54	54	...	...	...	60	114	Ninian Park C.
...	...	34	32	66	...	...	...	68	185	Radnor Road C.
...	...	18	21	39	...	...	3	32	222	Roath Park C.
...	...	34	46	80	...	...	7	65	365	Severn Road C.
...	...	7	16	23	...	...	4	7	34	South Church Street C.
...	...	67	67	67	...	...	18	52	310	Splotlands C.
...	...	32	20	52	...	...	2	32	223	Stacey Road C.
...	...	11	33	44	...	...	6	35	196	Wood Street C.
...	5	25	30	Canton N.P.	
...	...	3	9	12	...	...	...	8	117	Cathays N.P.
...	57	Crofts Street N.P.	
...	...	9	5	14	...	...	...	5	19	Grangetown N.P.
...	...	11	11	22	...	...	8	20	133	Metal Street N.P.
...	...	41	41	41	...	...	16	12	102	St. John's N.P.
...	...	8	26	34	...	...	5	10	49	St. Mary's N.P. (Bute Terrace)
...	...	3	19	22	...	...	5	14	41	St. Mary's N.P. (Clarence Road)
...	5	2	7	St. Mary's Mission N.P.	
...	...	6	16	22	...	...	2	11	82	St. Monica's N.P.
...	...	3	9	12	...	...	3	15	30	Tredegarville N.P.
...	...	23	23	23	...	...	3	15	41	St Alban's N.P.
...	...	12	12	12	...	...	3	9	24	St. Cuthbert's N.P.
...	...	4	34	38	...	...	22	27	87	St. David's N.P.
...	...	2	9	11	...	...	2	14	27	St. Mary's N.P. (Wyndham Crescent)
...	21	21	...	...	7	12	40	St. Patrick's N.P.	
...	...	10	32	42	...	...	2	30	203	St. Peter's N.P.
...	...	371	971	1342	...	...	227	1026	4686	TOTALS

N.P.—Non-Provided Schools.

TABLE III.

Return of Defects found in the Course of Medical Inspection in 1917 :—

DEFECT OR DISEASE	CODE GROUPS			SPECIALS	
	Number referred for Treatment	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment	Number referred for Treatment	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment
SKIN :—					
Malnutrition	66	4	7		5
Uncleanliness :—					
Head	57	...	52		...
Body	39	...	5		...
SKIN :—					
Ringworm :—					
Head	5	...	118		...
Body	8	...	68		...
Scabies	28	...	189		...
Impetigo	48	...	157		...
Other Disease	8	7	72		3
EYE :—					
Defective Vision and Squint	371	1	314		3
External Eye Disease	22	1	72		...
EAR :—					
Defective Hearing	18	9	33		...
Ear Disease	13	1	50		...
TEETH :—					
Dental Disease (see Clinic Report).					
NOSE AND THROAT :—					
Enlarged Tonsils	265	5	59		...
Adenoids	72	6	97		...
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	27	2	31		...
Defective Speech ... ... ...	...	...	2		...
HEART AND CIRCULATION :—					
Heart Disease :—					
Organic	3	6	...		...
Functional ... ... ...	...	...	...		7
Anæmia	50	2	10		24
LUNGS :—					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis :—					
Definite	2	3	4		...
Suspected ... ... ...	...	2	17		26
Chronic Bronchitis	15	4	4		26
Other Disease	2	12	...		38
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—					
Epilepsy ... ... ...	...	4	1		6
Chorea	20	...	3		17
Other Disease ... ... ...	...	...	...		1
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis :—					
Glands	2	3	6		11
Bones and Joints ... ...	...	...	...		5
Other Forms ... ... ...	...	...	2		1
Rickets ... ... ...	...	...	1		2
Deformities	3	1	1		4
Other Defects or Diseases	28	11	82		63

TUBERCULOSIS.—The Mortality from tuberculosis in all forms amongst children between the age of five and fifteen years in Cardiff during the year 1917 was as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	18
Tubercular Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	8

The Tuberculosis Regulations, 1912, made all forms of tuberculosis notifiable by medical practitioners to the Medical Officer of Health. The number of such notifications amongst children at school ages received during the year were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	32
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	49

TABLE IV.

Treatment of Defects of Children during 1917 :—

Condition	No. of Defects found for which Treatment was considered necessary			No. of Defects for which no report is available	No. of Defects treated	Results of Treatment			No. of Defects not treated	Percentage of Defects treated
	From previous Year	New	Total			Reme- died	Improved	Un- changed		
Clothing	1	28	29	...	28	16	12	...	1 96.5
Footgear	...	1	16	17	...	17	9	8	...	...
Cleanliness of Head	...	1	109	110	...	108	100	8	...	2 98.1
Cleanliness of Body	29	29	...	27	15	12	...	2 93.1
Nutrition	...	3	72	75	12	63	2	59	2	...
Nose and Throat	...	142	664	806	10	287	254	29	4	509 35.6
External Eye Disease	...	6	95	101	1	89	61	27	1	11 88.1
Ear Disease	...	3	62	65	1	50	27	22	1	14 76.9
Teeth	115	530	645	16	171	114	57	...
Heart and Circulation	...	1	15	16	...	16	...	8	8	...
Lungs	...	1	40	41	...	40	6	29	5	1 97.5
Nervous System	...	3	24	27	...	27	7	17	3	...
Skin	...	21	731	752	13	739	616	123	...	...
Rickets	4	4	...	4	...	4	...	...
Deformities	5	5	...	5	...	2	3	...
Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary)	12	12	...	12	...	11	1	...
Speech
Mental Condition	10	10	...	10	...	10	...	...
Vision and Squint	...	181	684	865	13	522	449	63	10	330 60.3
Hearing	...	11	31	42	1	20	13	7	...	21 47.6
Miscellaneous	...	3	97	100	...	97	34	54	9	3 97
Anæmia	...	7	60	67	...	64	3	61	...	3 95.5
TOTAL	...	500	3,318	3,818	67	2,396	1,726	623	47	1,355 62.7

TABLE V.

Inspection, Treatment, etc., of Children during 1917:—

1	The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child)	6,637
2	The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment)	336
3	The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	2,487

TABLE VI.

Treatment of minor ailments at the School Clinic during the year 1917:—

Disease or Defect Treated	Old Cases (1916)	New Cases (1917)	Total	Result of Treatment		
				Cured	Improved	Unchanged
Ringworm	39	122	161	114	47	...
Scabies	8	154	162	97	65	...
Other Skin Disorders	4	342	346	235	111	...
External Eye Diseases ... ... ...	...	26	26	10	16	...
Verminous Condition ... ... ...	...	29	29	22	7	...
Ear Diseases ... ... ...	...	17	17	12	5	...
Other Diseases or Defects ... ... ...	...	9	9	5	4	...
Totals	51	699	750	495	255	...

TABLE VII.
TREATMENT OF TEETH AT SCHOOL CLINIC OF CHILDREN 6 TO 8 YEARS.

	No. of Children inspected at School by Dentist	No. of cases notified for Treatment	No. of cases recommended by School Medical Officer	No. of Applicants for Treatment	No. Treated	Extractions		By Gas		By Ether		Anesthetics administered	Attend-ances	
						Simple	Temporary Teeth	Permanent Teeth	Temporary Teeth	Permanent Teeth	Temporary Teeth	Permanent Teeth		
Boys	2,574	2,398	25	272	192	8	...	277	5	333	21	98	128	263
Girls	2,337	2,189	23	315	192	9	...	297	18	170	26	105	130	225
Total	4,911	4,587	48	587	384	17	...	574	23	503	47	203	258	488

TABLE VIII.

SCHOOL CLINIC OPHTHALMIC DEPARTMENT.

DR. LEIGHTON DAVIES.

		No. of Cases recommended from Medical Examination	No. of Applicants treated	Spectacles prescribed	Other forms of treatment	No. of Cases followed up who have obtained Glasses	Attendances
Boys	...	246	153	91	35	84	376
Girls	...	455	256	152	56	152	578
Total	...	701	409	243	91	236	954

The Education Committee paid half the cost of spectacles in 162 cases.

TABLE IX.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—Treatment of Diseases of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	No. of Cases recommended by School Medical Officer	No. of Cases applied for treatment	No. of Cases treated	Tonsils and Adenoids	Otitis Media Chronica	Other conditions	No. of Anaesthetics administered	Attendances
Boys	...	316	164	101	76	5	36	77
Girls	...	297	199	109	76	6	46	76
Total	...	613	363	210	152	11	82	552

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACT, 1913.

During the year 30 children were examined and dealt with under this Act.

EIGHT of these children were certified as "not incapable by reason of mental defect, of receiving benefit from the instruction in an ordinary Public Elementary School."

EIGHT children were certified as "feeble minded within the meaning of the Act, but not incapable by reason of mental defect of receiving benefit from instruction in a Special School or Class." These eight children were recommended for admission to Virgil Street School for Mentally Defectives."

FOUR children were certified as "incapable, by reason of mental defect, of receiving benefit from instruction in a special school or class under the Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children's Act, 1899)." These cases were notified to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

ONE child who was attending the Special School was incapable of receiving benefit from further instruction at that School. This case was reported to the Local Authority.

NINE children are still under observation.

SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN
(VIRGIL STREET).

Medical inspection was carried out twice during the year.

A book is kept for each child containing an account of his or her family and personal history, medical examinations, and educational progress.

The number of children examined during the year was 31—including 19 boys and 12 girls.

ORAL SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN.

At the annual inspection, the number of children examined was 21, including 16 girls and 5 boys.

TABLE X.

CAUSES OF DEAFNESS						BOYS	GIRLS	TOTALS
CONGENITAL	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	15
ACQUIRED—								
Infective Diseases :—								
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Congenital Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diseases of the Nervous System :—								
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
UNDETERMINED	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals						5	16	21

SCHOOL FOR BLIND CHILDREN.

The children attending this School have an annual Medical Inspection.

Number of children medically examined, 18.

TABLE XI.

CAUSES OF DEFECTIVE VISION	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTALS
Cataract ...	1	2	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	2	3
Coloboma	1	...	1
Interstitial Keratitis	2	...	2
Corneal Ulcers	...	1	1
Optic Atrophy	1	...	1
Buphthalmos	1	...	1
Nystagmus	...	1	1
Staphyloma of Irides	...	1	1
Staphyloma and Anterior Polar Cataract	1	...	1
Hydrocephalus (Optic Atrophy)	...	1	1
Astigmatism	...	1	1
Doubtful	...	1	1
Totals	8	10	18

TABLE XII.

Return of Defects found in the course of Medical Inspection of the Special Schools :—

		ORAL SCHOOL		BLIND SCHOOL		SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY DEFECTIVES	
		BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS
Number of Children Examined	...	5	16	8	10	19	12
Malnutrition	...	3	1	2	...	4	3
Uncleanliness—Head	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Body	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Skin :—							
Ringworm—Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
EYE :—							
Defective Vision and Squint	...	1	3	3	6	4	4
Total Blindness	...	...	...	5	4	...	...
External Eye Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
EAR :—							
Partially Deaf	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Totally Deaf	...	3	16	...	...	...	...
Ear Disease	...	...	3	...	...	...	1
NOSE AND THROAT :—							
Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Adenoids	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SPEECH :—							
Not Defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Defective Articulation	...	3	14	1	...	4	4
Nasal Intonation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Incapable of Articulation	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
HEART AND CIRCULATION :—							
Heart Disease—Organic	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Functional	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Anæmia	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
LUNGS :—							
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Definite	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Other Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—							
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Chorea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Disease	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Deformities	...	...	1	3	...	1	1
Other Defects or Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.

Arrangements have been made by which the results of the medical inspection of children leaving school are supplied to the Juvenile Employment (Education) Officer. The height and weight, and particulars as to eyesight and hearing of every leaver are given, and in cases of other defective physical conditions, such information is also supplied. In many cases special medical examinations of children are made on the request of the Juvenile Employment Officer.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS.

The Medical examination of newly appointed teachers was carried out by the Assistant School Medical Officers upon instructions from the Education Committee. During the year 1917, 61 teachers were examined, and 18 re-examinations made. Forty pupil teachers were examined and 8 re-examined.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD WALFORD,

School Medical Officer.